

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEL AV 05291 191322Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SSM-03 SSO-00 INRE-00
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FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
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INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
USMISSION SINAI

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PBOR, IS, US, OVIP (BEGIN, MENAHEM)
SUBJECT: BEGIN'S PEACE PLAN ACCORDING TO HAARETZ

1. TODAY'S HAARETZ FEATURES A STORY BY MATTI GOLAN REPORTING
TO BE THE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF THE PLAN THAT
PRIME MINISTER BEGIN WILL PRESENT TO THE PRESIDENT.
GOLAN FREQUENTLY COMES UP WITH A SCOOP AND IS GENERALLY
THOUGHT TO HAVE GOOD SOURCES IN THE GOVERNMENT, PARTICULARLY
THE FOREIGN MINISTRY. HOWEVER, WHILE THE STORY MAY
REPRESENT A DELIBERATE LEAK, A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF
SKEPTICISM WOULD BE PRUDENT IN VIEW OF THIS GOVERNMENT'S
THUS FAR SUCCESSFUL TIGHT-LIPPED POLICY. THE
FOLLOWING IS OUR TRANSLATION OF THE COMPLETE ARTICLE:

BEGIN TEXT: BEGIN'S GENEVA PLAN: OPENING
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PAGE 02 TEL AV 05291 191322Z

SESSION: JOINT COMMITTEES WITH 3 CONFRONTATION COUNTRIES.

3. AT HIS MEETING WITH PRESIDENT CARTER TODAY,
PRIME MINISTER BEGIN WILL PROPOSE A PLAN WHOSE MAIN
ASPECT IS A TECHNICAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE CONTINUATION
OF POLITICAL CONTACTS FOR PEACE TREATY. THE PLAN
PROPOSES THE HOLDING OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE AROUND

MID-OCTOBER.

4. THE CONFERENCE FRAMEWORK WILL BE COMPOSED OF TWO PAHSES: AN OPENING SESSION; AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THREE SEPARATE COMMITTEES WITH EGYPT, SYRIA AND JORDAN. THERE WILL BE A ROTATION OF COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN REPRESENTING EACH OF THE PARTIES. MR. BEGIN AGREES IN ADVANCE TO LEBANON'S JOINING THE CONFERENCE AND TO A FOURTH COMMITTEE WITH LEBANON, IF SHE WISHES.

5. ISRAEL QUITE NATURALLY CONTINUES TO BE UNEQUIVOCALLY OPPOSED TO THE PLO BEING INVITED TO THE CONFERENCE. IF FOR THAT OR ANY OTHER REASON IT WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE TO HOLD THE GENEVA CONFERENCE, MR. BEGIN WILL PROPOSE TWO ALTERNATIVES TO THE U.S. PRESIDENT:

A) THE U.S. WILL INITIATE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF JOINT COMMITTEES WITH THREE OR FOUR OF THE CONFRONTATION COUNTRIES. THE COMMITTEES WILL CONVENE AT A PLACE DECIDED UPON BY THE U.S., AND WILL FUNCTION OUTSIDE THE GENEVA CONFERENCE FRAMEWORK.

B) PROXIMITY TALKS A LA RHODES WITH U.S. PARTICIPATION.

6. THE SUBSTANTIVE PART IS BUT A FRACTION OF THE DOCUMENT WHICH MR. BEGIN WILL SUBMIT TO PRESIDENT CARTER. NO MENTION WHATEVER IS MADE OF WITHDRAWAL. MR. BEGIN WILL COVER THAT ASPECT ORALLY. HE WILL SAY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 TEL AV 05291 191322Z

TO HIS HOST THAT ISRAEL IS PREPARED TO CARRY OUT ALTERATIONS OF THE LINES IN SINAI AND THE GOLAN HEIGHTS. BEGIN WILL NOT, HOWEVER, EMBARK ON ANY DISCUSSION OF MAPS NOR WILL HE TALK IN TERMS OF KILOMETERS.

7. WITH REGARD TO JUDEA AND SAMARIA, THE PRIME MINISTER HAS BEEN AUTHORIZED TO EXPLAIN TO THE U.S. PRESIDENT THE SECURITY AND HISTORICAL REASONS OBVIATING EVEN THE SLIGHTEST CHANGE OF LINE. INSTEAD, MR. BEGIN WILL PROPOSE A FORMULA ACCORDING TO WHICH NO FOREIGN ELEMENT WILL RULE OVER JUDEA AND SAMARIA. ACCORDING TO THAT FORMULA (MR. DAYAN HAS BEEN ADVOCATING IT FOR MANY YEARS), THE INHABITANTS OF THE WEST BANK WILL ADMINISTER THEIR OWN LIVES. THE DEFENSE OF THE JUDEA AND SAMARIA TERRITORIES WILL, HOWEVER, CONTINUE TO BE IN ISRAELI HANDS.

8. IN OTHER WORDS, MR. BEGIN HAS PRACTICALLY ABANDONED ANNEXATION OF JUDEA AND SAMARIS TO ISRAEL AND IS PREPARED TO FOREGO ISRAELI RULE IN THESE TERRITORIES ON CONDITION THAT CONTROL IS NOT HANDED OVER TO

FOREIGN ELEMENTS. THE OTHER CONDITION IS THAT ALL OF THIS WILL BE EXPLICIT WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF A PEACE TREATY. IF THE POLITICAL CONTACTS FAIL, THE SITUATION WILL BE BACK TO ITS FORMER STATE AND THE QUESTION OF ANNEXATION WILL AGAIN BE CONSIDERED.

9. AS REPORTED IN HAARETZ ON JULY 13, MR. BEGIN WILL PROPOSE A PEACE TREATY AS AN EXCLUSIVE POLITICAL OBJECTIVE, MR. BEGIN HAS NOT ASKED FOR NOR HAS HE OBTAINED THE GOVERNMENT'S AUTHORITY TO DISCUSS THE POSSIBILITY OF INTERIM AGREEMENTS.

10. AS FOR PROCUREMENT, MR. BEGIN WILL APPARENTLY REFRAIN FROM SUCH REQUESTS FOR ANYTHING NEW. HE WILL, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 04 TEL AV 05291 191322Z

HOWEVER, PROBABLY DEMAND THAT EARLIER AMERICAN COMMITMENTS BE ADHERED TO.

11. MR. BEGIN WILL APPARENTLY REFRAIN FROM RAISING THE ISSUE OF SETTLEMENTS IN JUDEA AND SAMARIA. SHOULD CARTER WISH TO HEAR ABOUT THE PLANS OF THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT IN THAT CONTEXT, BEGIN WILL SAY THAT ISRAEL IS ALWAYS ATTENTIVE TO U.S. VIEWS ON THE MATTER. NONETHELESS, ISRAEL WILL MAKE HER OWN DECISIONS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH HER NEEDS AND INDEPENDENT POSITIONS. END TEXT DUNNIGAN

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